UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

TYRONE JAMES, MARK CROWDER, JALONE DAVIS (JALONE SHABAZZ), TERRY WILSON, WAYNE HAYWOOD, KEVIN REDD, KENNETH ELMORE, CHRISTOPHER GRAY

Plaintiffs,

Case No. No. 17-CV-0843 (GTS)(DEP)

-against-

DANIEL MCCULLOUGH, SCOTT WILLIS, JOHN AMATO, MICHAEL COMITO, and JEFFREY BADENDYCK

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT, GENERAL RELEASE, AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL

Defendants.
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This SETTLEMENT STIPULATION, GENERAL RELEASE, AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL ("Settlement Stipulation") is made by and between Plaintiffs TYRONE JAMES, MARK CROWDER, JALONE DAVIS (JALONE SHABAZZ), TERRY WILSON, WAYNE HAYWOOD, KEVIN REDD, KENNETH ELMORE, CHRISTOPHER GRAY ("Plaintiffs") and Defendant MICHAEL COMITO.

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs commenced this action by filing a complaint on or about August 2, 2017 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York and filed an amended complaint on or about May 3, 2019 in the same court, under Case Number 17-cv-0843 against Defendants alleging that Defendants violated Plaintiffs' rights under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances act 18 U.S.C. § 248 (c)(1)(A), 42 U.S.C. § 1985(3), and New York Constitution Art I, § 3 while Plaintiffs were incarcerated within the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision at Shawangunk Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, the claims against Defendants DANIEL MCCULLOUGH, SCOTT WILLIS, JOHN AMATO and JEFFREY BADENDYCK were dismissed by the Honorable Glenn T. Suddaby by Decision and Order dated March 3, 2020,

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WHEREAS, the only current remaining claims in this action remain against Michael Comito in his individual capacity who expressly denies any wrongful conduct or liability, or violation of any federal, state, or local statute, ordinance, or law in the Action; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Defendant Michael Comito wish to fully resolve the claims alleged in the complaint in the Action, and any and all other disputes, whether known or unknown, without further litigation or proceedings and without admission of fault or liability and have negotiated in good faith for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs represent and warrant that, other than this Action, they have no action or proceeding pending in any court, state or federal, arising out of or relating to the subject matter of this lawsuit;

WHEREAS, No party hereto is an infant or incompetent;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, representations, and other consideration contained in this Settlement Stipulation, Plaintiffs and Defendant Comito hereby agree as follows:

1. <u>Dismissal of the Action With Prejudice Against Defendant Comito</u>

Upon the Court's approval and so-ordering of this Settlement Stipulation, the Action, and all claims asserted therein are discontinued with prejudice against Defendant Michael Comito pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1)(A)(ii) and without payments, attorneys' fees, costs, disbursements, or expenses in excess of the amounts specified in Paragraph 2 below. For the avoidance of any doubt, this Settlement Stipulation has no effect on Plaintiffs' claims against other Defendants in this suit, nor on their ability to file an appeal of any prior dismissals of other Defendants.

2. Payment to Plaintiffs

In full consideration of Plaintiffs' execution of this Settlement Stipulation, their agreement to be bound by its terms, and their undertakings as set forth herein including, but not limited to, the dismissal of the Action with prejudice against Defendant Michael Comito and other good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged,

Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Document 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 3 of 17 Defendant Michael Comito shall pay the gross amount of Twenty Eight Hundred Dollars (\$2,800.00) (the "Settlement Amount") inclusive of attorneys' fees, costs, disbursements, or expenses in full satisfaction of any and all claims, allegations or actions, direct or indirect, known or unknown, that Plaintiffs have, had, or may have against Defendant Michael Comito, whether in his individual or official capacity, arising out of conduct, acts, or omissions prior to, up to and including the date of this Settlement Stipulation, including but not limited to those asserted in the Action, including any attorney's fees, costs, disbursements, and expenses incurred by Plaintiffs for any and all counsel who have assisted Plaintiffs or at any time represented Plaintiffs in the Action or any Court of Claims Action or in connection with any other proceeding, administrative, judicial, or otherwise, and any other claim or action by Plaintiffs alleging any of the acts, transactions, occurrences, or omissions asserted in the Action as follows:

- Defendant Michael Comito shall tender the Settlement Amount payable to Law Office of Amy Jane Agnew, P.C. who will distribute the funds to Plaintiffs;
- b. Defendant designates \$350.00 to each Plaintiff.
- c. The Settlement Amount shall be in full and complete satisfaction of any and all claims against Defendant Comito for compensatory damages (including but not limited to pain and suffering, mental and emotional anguish and trauma, damage to reputation, economic damages, punitive damages, and liquidated damages) incurred by Plaintiffs that were or could have been the subject of any claim in the Action, as well as in connection with any other proceeding, administrative, judicial, or otherwise, including but not limited to any other claim or action alleging any of the acts, transactions or occurrences pleaded in any of the filed Complaints in this action.

3. Court Approval of Payments

The payment set forth in paragraph 2 will be made within 60 days following the approval by the Court of this Stipulation of Settlement and Discontinuance and receipt by the parties' counsel of a copy of the so-ordered stipulation.

4. <u>Liability of Plaintiffs</u>

It is understood and agreed that any taxes, or interest or penalties on taxes, on the settlement amounts specified in Paragraph 2 of this Settlement Stipulation shall be the sole and complete responsibility of Plaintiffs and that Plaintiffs shall have no claim, right or cause of action against Defendant Michael Comito on account of such taxes, interest or penalties.

5. Liability of Plaintiffs for Liens

Plaintiffs agree that neither Defendant Michael Comito shall be responsible for any liens of any kind (including, but not limited to, any and all workers' compensation, disability, tax, or child support liens) which may attach to the Settlement Amount specified in Paragraph 2 of this Settlement Stipulation. Plaintiffs shall have no claim, right, or cause of action against Defendant Michael Comito on account of such liens.

6. General Release

In consideration of the payment of the sum recited in Paragraph 2 above, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns (collectively, "the Releasing Parties"), hereby release and forever discharge Defendant Michael Comito, his heirs, administrators, and assigns, whether in their individual or official capacities ("the Released Party"), from all manner of actions, injuries, proceedings, causes of action, grievances, suits, debts, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, damages, judgments, claims, and demands whatsoever, direct or indirect, known or unknown, discovered or undiscovered, that the Releasing Parties ever had, now have, or shall or may have in the

Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Document 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 5 of 17 future against the Released Party, for or by reason of any act, transaction, occurrence, omission, cause, matter, or thing whatsoever up to and including the date of this Settlement Stipulation, including but not limited to: (a) any and all claims regarding or arising out of the causes of action, acts, transactions, occurrences, or omissions which are described, alleged, or contained in the complaints in this Action; (b) any and all claims regarding or arising directly or indirectly from either Plaintiffs' associations with the Released Party or the terms and conditions of their associations with any of the Released Parties; (c) any and all other claims, whether for damages (including but not limited to, claims for equitable relief, compensatory, punitive, or other damages), breach of contract, negligence, estoppel, defamation, infliction of emotional distress, violation of public policy, or any other tort, or any claim for costs, fees, or other expenses including attorneys' fees, or any other claims under federal, state, or local law relating to the Released Party from the beginning of the world up to and including the date of this Settlement Stipulation.

The Releasing Parties further understand that this Release is intended to be effective as a full and final accord and satisfaction of their claims and potential claims against the Released Party and that the Released Party are relying on said finality as a material factor in agreeing to the terms of this Settlement Stipulation.

7. Subpoena for Future Testimony

In further consideration of the terms outlined under this Agreement, Defendant Michael Comito agrees to allow his attorneys Harris, Conway & Donovan, PLLC to accept service on his behalf of any Subpoena to testify specifically in this matter in the future should Plaintiffs prevail on their appeal against the other Defendants as referred to and described in Paragraph 1.

8. No Other Action or Proceeding Commenced

Other than the Action, Plaintiffs represent and warrant that they have not commenced, maintained, or prosecuted any action, charge, complaint, grievance, or proceeding of any kind against Defendant Michael Comito, that none of the foregoing is currently pending in any court

Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Document 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 6 of 17 or before any administrative or investigative body or agency, and acknowledges that this representation constitutes a material inducement for Defendant Michael Comito to enter into this Settlement Stipulation.

9. No Prevailing Party

Neither Plaintiffs nor Defendant Michael Comito shall be deemed a "prevailing party" for any purpose including, but not limited to, any statutory or contractual claim based upon "prevailing party" status with respect to the Action.

10. Successors and Assigns

The terms and conditions of this Settlement Stipulation shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and assigns of each party hereto.

11. Authority

Each signatory to this Settlement Stipulation hereby represents and warrants that he, she, or it has the requisite authority to enter into this Settlement Stipulation and has not previously assigned or transferred any rights or interests with respect to the matters covered by this Settlement Stipulation.

12. Voluntary Agreement

The parties hereto execute and deliver this Settlement Stipulation voluntarily after being fully informed of its terms, contents and effect, and acknowledges that she, he or it understands its terms, contents and effect. The parties hereto acknowledge that he, she or it is aware, and is advised, of his, her or its right to seek the advice of an attorney and that he, she or it has been represented by counsel of his, her or its own choosing before agreeing to any settlement or release, and no compromise or representation of any kind, other than as set forth or referred to herein, has been made to any party hereto or any one acting on behalf of such party.

13. No Admission of Liability

It is understood and agreed that any actions taken or payments made pursuant to this Settlement Stipulation are made solely to avoid the burdens and expense of protracted Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Document 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 7 of 17 litigation, and that this Settlement Stipulation and the actions taken or payments made pursuant hereto are not to be construed as constituting any determination on the merits of any claims, whether asserted or purportedly asserted in the Action. Defendant Michael Comito expressly denies any liability and nothing herein shall be construed as an admission of negligence, liability, responsibility, or fault of any kind on the part of Defendant Michael Comito.

14. No Precedential Value

This Settlement Stipulation shall not in any manner be construed as determinative of the issues or claims, whether raised or purportedly raised, in the Action or any other proceeding, and shall have no precedential value, except in an action to enforce the terms of the Settlement Stipulation. In addition, notwithstanding the provisions of any paragraph herein, this Settlement Stipulation shall not bind or collaterally estop Defendant Michael Comito in any pending or future actions or proceedings in which the same or similar issues are raised, from defending any and all issues raised in said actions or proceedings, or from advancing any and all available defenses or reaching different terms in any settlement, except in an action to enforce the terms of the Settlement Stipulation.

15. Entire Agreement

This Settlement Stipulation constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes and embodies, merges and integrates all prior and current agreements and understandings of the parties hereto, whether written or oral, with respect to the subject matter of this Settlement Stipulation, and may not be clarified, modified, changed, or amended except in a writing duly executed by the parties hereto or an authorized representative of the parties hereto.

16. Governing Law

The terms of this Settlement Stipulation shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York applicable to contracts to be performed wholly within the State of New York, except to the extent that federal law may apply to

Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Document 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 8 of 17 Plaintiffs' release and waiver of federal claims or purported claims pursuant to this Settlement Stipulation.

17. Severability

If any provision of this Settlement Stipulation shall be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable in whole or in part, such decision shall not invalidate the remaining portion or affect its validity.

18. Headings

The headings contained in this Settlement Stipulation are for convenience of reference only and are not a material part of this Settlement Stipulation.

19. Execution

This Settlement Stipulation may be executed in any number of counterparts, all of which taken together shall constitute one Settlement Stipulation, and may be executed by facsimile signature and facsimile notary seal, or email/scan. The parties agree that due to the Covid pandemic and lack of access to notaries public in the facilities of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, where some of the Plaintiffs are in custody, Plaintiffs' counsel may notarize the wet ink signatures of Plaintiffs on this stipulation in the same manner and with the same effect as if the signatures were applied to the Stipulation in her physical presence. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto acknowledge that they have read this Settlement Stipulation and accept and agree to the provisions contained herein, and have each executed this Settlement Stipulation to be effective on the day and date indicated below.

THIS SETTLEMENT STIPULATION INCLUDES A RELEASE OF ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN CLAIMS

Dated: Far Hills, New Jersey

LAW OFF DE AMY JANE AGNEW, P.C.

By: Amy Jane Agnety Esq.

Pro Bono Counsel for Plaintiffs
24 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1701

New York, New York 10011

(973) 600-1724

ai@aiagnew.com

Dated: Albany, New York 2/10, 2020

HARRIS CONWAY & DONOVAN, PLLC

By: Ryan E. Manley, Esq.

Counsel for Defendant Michael Comito

50 State Street, 2nd Floor Albany, New York 12207

(518) 436-1661

RManley@HCDLegal.com

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF USSER

YRONE JAMES

On the day of December, 2021, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Tyrone James personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person under dehalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.

Notary Public

Case 9:17-cv-00843-GTS-ML Dogument 154 Filed 02/11/21 Page 10 of 17 MARK CROWDER		
STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF My () ss.:		
On theday of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Mark Crowder personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.		
Notary Public MIGHAEL DARSON NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW YORK Registration Number # 01PE6211056 Que and in Orange County Commission Expires Sept 08, 20_21		
Commission approximation		
JALONE DAVIS (JALONE SHABAZZ) STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) ss.: On the day of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Jalone Davis (Jalone Shabazz) personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed		
to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.		
Notary Public		
TERRY WILSON		
STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) ss.:		
On theday of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Terry Wilson personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.		
Notary Public		

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STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) ss.:
On theday of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Mark Crowder personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.
Notary Public
JALONE DAVIS (JALONE SHABAZZ) STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WWW (In the property of the proper
TERRY WILSON
STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) ss.:
On theday of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Terry Wilson personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.
Notary Public

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•	WAYNE HAYWOOD
STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF)) ss.:
for said State, personally appeared the basis of satisfactory evidence instrument and acknowledged to	mber, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and ed Wayne Haywood personally known to me or proved to me on ce to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within o me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his e individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual
	Notary Public
	KEVIN REDD KEVIN REDD
STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF Lynning)) ss.:
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STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF	KENNETH ELMORE)) ss.:
On the day of Decer for said State, personally appear the basis of satisfactory evidence instrument and acknowledged to	mber, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and red Kenneth Elmore personally known to me or proved to me on ce to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his e individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual
	Notary Public

	WAYNE HAYWOOD
STATE OF NEW YORK	
COUNTY OF) ss.:
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	Notary Public
	KEVIN REDD
STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) s	ss.:
for said State, personally appeared Kobasis of satisfactory evidence to be instrument and acknowledged to me	, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and evin Redd personally known to me or proved to me on the the individual whose name is subscribed to the within that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his vidual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual
5	Notary Public
for said State, personally appeared Ke the basis of satisfactory evidence to instrument and acknowledged to me signature on the instrument, the indi- acted, executed the instrument.	KENNETH ELMORE Ss.: 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and enneth Elmore personally known to me or proved to me on be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within that he executed the same in his capacity, and that have providual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of which the individual New Control of the person upon behalf of the person upon the person

SO ORDERED:

Dated: Syracuse, New York

December , 2020

Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby, U.S.D.J.

	CHRISTOPHER GRAY
STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF) ss.:	
for said State, personally appeared Christop the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the instrument and acknowledged to me that h	before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and wher Gray personally known to me or proved to me on the individual whose name is subscribed to the within the executed the same in his capacity, and that by his larger or the person upon behalf of which the individual
Notar	y Public
MICHAEL COMITO STATE OF NEW JERSEY COUNTY OF Morers) ss.: On the 23 day of December, 2020, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Michael Comito personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument. SO ORDERED: Dated: February 11, 2021 JOSEPHINE P. DEELSNYDER NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW JERSEY MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEB. 27, 2022 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEB. 27, 2022 Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby Chief LI S. District Judge	